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Memphis Tennessee Garrison Papers

ACC 2014/09.0819

Special Collections Department
James E. Morrow Library
Marshall University
Huntington, West Virginia 2014

Memphis Tennessee Garrison Papers October 2014

Collection Summary:

Title: Memphis Tennessee Garrison Papers

Span Dates: 1898-1981

Creator: Memphis Tennessee Garrison

Repository: Marshall University Special Collections, Morrow Library (Huntington, WV)

Processed by: Caitlin Walker, 2014

Accession Number: 2014/09.0819

Date Completed: October 2014

Access to Collection: Open

Search Terms:

Memphis Tennessee Garrison

NAACP

National Association for Advancement of Colored People

African American History

Civil Rights

Women's History

Appalachian History

Appalachian Women

Alpha Kappa Alpha

Biographical Sketch:

Memphis Tennessee Garrison was born in Hollins, VA on March 4, 1890. She moved to Gary, WV with her parents Cassie and Wesley Carter. Wesley Carter was a contractor for the coal mines but was killed by a train when Garrison was a young child. Her mother worked as a housekeeper. Garrison attended high school in Ohio and began teaching in McDowell County, WV in 1908. She obtained a B.S. at Bluefield State College in 1939 and pursued advanced courses at Ohio University. Garrison taught for over 35 years and continued to serve as a substitute teacher for many years. She was a member of several teachers' associations. She served as the first female President of the West Virginia State Teacher's Association from 1929-1930. In 1931, she served as vice president of the American Teacher's Association. She also served as secretary/treasurer of the Bluefield State Alumni Association.

Garrison associated herself with the Republican party until the John F. Kennedy era. She had always been a civil rights activist. She worked as a welfare worker for U.S. from 1931 until 1946 when the workers were unionized. Garrison became aware of the NAACP in 1918 when she read a copy of the *Crisis*. In 1921, she started an NAACP branch in Gary, WV making it the third in the state. She was appointed secretary and she was the treasurer of the state-wide chapter from 1945-1966. She attended over thirty NAACP conferences. One of her most notable accomplishments was the Christmas Seal Project that she began in 1927. She designed and sold the seals as a source of fundraising and sold more seals than anyone in the nation. She served as the national field secretary in the 1950s and was vice-president of the National Board from 1963-1966. She received many awards from the NAACP including the Walker medal for distinguished

service to Negroes in 1920 and the T. G Nutter award in 1959. She was a member of the Human Rights Commission from 1964-1966. In 1969, she received an honorary degree of Doctor of Humanities from Marshall University. She moved to Huntington, WV and lived there until her death in 1988.

Scope and Content:

This collection contains the personal, religious, educational, and political possessions of Memphis Tennessee Garrison. The collection includes correspondence, photographs, newspaper articles, programs, books, financial documents, publications, newsletters, plaques, certificates, a diary, and a jewelry box. The materials document Garrison's various roles on the local and national levels of the NAACP as well as her participation in other civil rights activities.

The collection is organized into seven series and two subseries.

Series 1	Personal
Series 2	Government
Series 3	Education
Series 4	Religion
Series 5	Unrelated Materials
Series 6	Financial
Series 7	NAACP
Subseries 7a	NAACP Publications
Subseries 7b	William C. Handy
Series 8	Books and Bound Volumes

See also

- Memphis Tennessee Garrison's oral history in Marshall University Special Collections [OH 64-541]
- *Memphis Tennessee Garrison: The Remarkable Story of Black Appalachian Woman* by Ancella R. Bickley and Lynda Ann Ewen [F247.M2 G375 2001]
- Ancella Bickley manuscript collection held in Marshall University Special Collections [Accession 522]
- Ancella Bickley's oral history in Marshall University Special Collections [OH 64-675]

Processing Notes:

A great deal of the materials received severe water and mold damage and, therefore, had to be photocopied for preservation purposes. Many of the photos were originally part of scrapbooks that received water damage. Box 7 contains oversized materials from the personal, government, and education series. Box 8 contains oversized materials from the NAACP series.

Preferred Citation:

Memphis Tennessee Garrison Papers, Accession No. 2014/09.0819, Special Collections Department, Marshall University, Huntington, WV.

Series 1- Personal

Box 1

Folder 1	Greeting Cards (Christmas)
Folder 2	Greeting Cards (Birth Announcement)
Folder 3	Greeting Cards (Birthday)
Folder 4	Greeting Cards (Thank you)
Folder 5	Greeting Cards (Mother's Day)
Folder 6	Greeting Cards (Thanksgiving)
Folder 7	Greeting Cards (Get Well/Sympathy)
Folder 8	Greeting Cards (Graduation)
Folder 9	Greeting Cards (Best Wishes)
Folder 10	Greeting Cards (Wedding Announcement)
Folder 11	Greeting Cards (Remembrance)
Folder 12	Greeting Cards (Easter)
Folder 13	Post Cards
Folder 14	Church Cards
Folder 15	Personal Correspondence (1917-1970)
Folder 16	Personal Correspondence (1973-1981)
Folder 17	Correspondence written by Memphis T. Garrison (1941-1971)
Folder 18	Poetry
Folder 19	Music
Folder 20	Crafts
Folder 21	African American Scrapbook pieces
Folder 22	Personal Documents
Folder 23	Photos
Folder 24	Photos
Folder 25	Photos

Series 2- Government

Folder 26	U.S. Department of Commerce
Folder 27	U.S. Department of Commerce
Folder 28	Republican Party

Folder 29	Human Rights Commission
Folder 30	African American Employment
Folder 31	National Education Association
Folder 32	National Citizen's Bulletin
Folder 33	U.S. Department of Justice
Folder 34	Message of Israel
Folder 35	Various Unrelated Government Publications

Series 3- Education

Box 2

Folder 36	Bluefield State College
Folder 37	Marshall University
Folder 38	West Virginia State College
Folder 39	High School programs/commencements
Folder 40	Publications
Folder 41	Correspondence (1929-1954)
Folder 42	Educational Programs/Associations
Folder 43	Certificates
Folder 44	Student Work
Folder 45	American Association of University Women
Folder 46	Newspaper Articles (1926-1967)
Folder 47	Newspaper Articles
Folder 48	Programs/Brochures (AKA)
Folder 49	Publications (AKA)
Folder 50	Minutes (AKA)
Folder 51	Organization Forms (AKA)

Series 4- Religion

Folder 52	Various Religious texts/programs
Folder 53	First Baptist Church
Folder 54	Various unrelated materials
Folder 55	Mentalphysics
Folder 56	Mentalphysics
Folder 57	Newspaper Articles (1926-1967)
Folder 58	Newspaper Articles

Series 5- Unrelated Materials

Folder 59	Newsletters
Folder 60	Publications

Folder 61	Materials from Gary, WV
Folder 62	Personal Materials
Folder 63	Newspaper Articles (1909-1949)
Folder 64	Newspaper Articles (1961-1974)
Folder 65	Newspapers Articles
Folder 66	Newspaper Articles

Series 6- Financial

Folder 67	Pancake Reality
Folder 68	Pancake Reality
Folder 69	Pancake Reality
Folder 70	Pancake Reality
Folder 71	Pancake Reality
Folder 72	Pancake Reality
Folder 73	Pancake Reality

Box 3

Pancake Reality Checks
 Anderson-Newcomb Checks
 Other Organizations Checks
 NAACP Checks
 Education Checks
 Personal Checks
 Mentalphysics Checks
 Ledger of Untitled Finances 1941

Series 7- NAACP

Box 4

Folder 74	Bylaws
Folder 75	Financial
Folder 76	Correspondence (1945-1959)
Folder 77	Correspondence (1960-1978)
Folder 78	Reports
Folder 79	Reports
Folder 80	Minutes
Folder 81	NAACP programs
Folder 82	NAACP programs
Folder 83	Membership Materials

Folder 84	Education Materials
Folder 85	Speeches
Folder 86	Speeches
Folder 87	Speeches
Folder 88	Convention Materials
Folder 89	Convention Materials
Folder 90	Christmas Seals
Folder 91	Charleston Branch
Folder 92	Huntington Branch
Folder 93	Untitled Play
Folder 94	Equal Opportunity Employment
Folder 95	Other Civil Rights Correspondence
Folder 96	Newspaper Articles (1929-1960)
Folder 97	Newspaper Articles (1964-1978)
Folder 98	Newspaper Articles
Folder 99	Newspaper Articles

Subseries 7a- Publications

Folder 100	<i>NAACP Bulletin</i>
Folder 101	NAACP Newsletter
Folder 102	<i>First Ladies of America</i>
Folder 103	<i>SCLC</i>
Folder 104	<i>Ebony</i>
Folder 105	<i>Jet</i>
Folder 106	<i>Springboards</i>
Folder 107	<i>NAACP Honor Guard</i>
Folder 108	<i>Negro Digest</i>
Folder 109	Various Civil Rights Pamphlets
Folder 110	NAACP Calendar
Folder 111	Various NAACP Publications
Folder 112	Various NAACP Publications

Box 5

The Crisis

*The *Crisis* was created by William Du Bois and continues to be the official publication of the NAACP. Garrison claims that she discovered the NAACP by reading the *Crisis*.

Crisis

1955 (November)
1957 (January, March)
1958 (May)
1959 (January, April, August-September)
1960 (April, October, November)
1965 (February, October)

1966 (February, March, June-July)
1967 (March, December)
1968 (May, August-September, October)
1969 (June-July)
Crisis Booklist

Subseries 7b- William C. Handy

Box 6

Folder 113	<i>The Handy News</i>
Folder 114	Newspapers
Folder 115	Greeting Cards
Folder 116	Article by William C. Handy
Folder 117	Programs/brochures
Folder 118	Correspondence (1941-1953)
Folder 119	Correspondence (1954-1957)

(Oversized Materials)

Box 7

Jewelry Box
Links Incorporated Plaque
The Mountain State Bar Associations Distinguished Citizen's Award
Diary
Imperial Daughters of ISIS certificate
Department of Free Schools Certificate

Series 7- NAACP (Oversized Materials)

Box 8

Christmas Seal Poster
Human Rights Commission Certificate
2 framed photographs of Memphis Tennessee Garrison
NAACP life membership plaque
T.G. Nutter Award Plaque
West Virginia Governor's Living the Dream Award Plaque

Series 8- Books and Bound Volumes

Box 9

Hicks, Warren. *Champion Spelling Book*. New York: American Book Company.

Milne, William J. *The Practical Arithmetic on The Inductive Plan Including Oral and Written Exercises*. New York: American Book Company, 1905.

Pitman, Isaac. *The Phonographic Teacher: A Guide to a Practical Acquaintance with the Art of*
Proceedings of the Executive Sessions held by the Imperial Court Divan and Minutes of the
Sixty-Second Imperial Court Session, August 19-24, 1973.

Ray, Joseph. *Ray's New Practical Arithmetic*. New York: American Book Company.

Science of Mentalphysics Vol IV. Inner Chamber.

Service, Robert W. *The Spell of the Yukon And Other Verses*. New York: Barse and Hopkins,
1907.

Shorthand or Phonography. New York: Dick and Fitzgerald, 1898.

Sterling, Dorothy and Donald Gross. *Tender Warriors*. New York: Hill and Wang, Inc. 1958.

The Links, Inc. Directory 1979. Washington, D.C.: The Links Inc. 1979.

The Negro History Bulletin. Vol. IV, 1940-1941.

Tilberg, Frederick. *Antietam*. Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1961.

Wise, James Waterman, ed. *From Bigotry To Brotherhood: A Tolerance Reader*. New York:
Council Against Intolerance in America.

Yearbook of the Clarksburg Beauty Academy. Clarksburg, WV: 1970.

Publications Extensively Damaged and Discarded

Proceedings of the Executive Sessions held by the Imperial Court Divan and Minutes of the
Sixtieth Imperial Court Session, August 16-21, 1971.

*Proceedings of the Executive Sessions held by the Imperial Court Divan and Minutes of the
Sixty-First Imperial Court Session, August 20-25, 1972.*